

IN THE CLAIMS

The text of all pending claims, (including withdrawn claims) is set forth below. Cancelled and not entered claims are indicated with claim number and status only. The claims as listed below show added text with underlining and deleted text with ~~striketrough~~. When strikethrough cannot easily be perceived, or when five or fewer characters are deleted, [[double brackets]] are used to show the deletion. The status of each claim is indicated with one of (original), (currently amended), (cancelled), (withdrawn), (new), (previously presented), or (not entered). Please AMEND claims 1-4 and ADD claim 5 in accordance with the following:

1. (Currently Amended) A method of reading a code given to a commodity, comprising ~~the operations of:~~

scanning codes from a plurality of test articles for measuring the an operator's scanning time and scanning interval to collect operator setting information, the codes being scanned by an operator;

collecting individual operator setting information including the reading time and the operation interval measured, the individual operator setting information depending on personal features of operators to be engaged in operation for reading the codes~~scanning codes;~~

storing individual operator setting information for a specific operator to be engaged in scanning codes in a portable recording medium;

reading the individual operator setting information for the specific operator from the portable recording medium;

setting an operation standard for reading scanned codes on the basis of the individual operator setting information corresponding to a specific operator before the operation; and

monitoring whether the operation relating to the specific operator conforms to the operation standard or not.

2. (Currently Amended) An apparatus for reading a code given to a commodity, said apparatus comprising:

a measuring unit that measures a reading time and an operation interval during the scanning of codes given to a plurality of articles prepared for measuring the reading time and the operation interval;

a measuring unit that measures a reading time and an operation interval during the scanning of codes given to a plurality of articles prepared for measuring the reading time and the operation interval;

a collecting unit which~~that~~ collects individual operator setting information including the reading time and the operation interval measured, the individual operator setting information depending on personal features of operators to be engaged in operation for reading the ~~codes~~scanned codes;

a storing unit that stores, in a portable recording medium, individual operator setting information for a specific operator to be engaged in scanning codes;

a reading unit that reads pertinent individual operator setting information from the portable recording medium;

a setting unit which~~that~~ sets an operation standard on the basis of the collected individual operator setting information; and

a processing unit which~~that~~ processes the code reading on the basis of the set operation standard.

5. (New) A method of setting an operation standard, comprising:
- scanning codes for a plurality of test articles, the codes being scanned by an operator;
 - measuring the operator's scanning time and scanning interval for the test articles, to thereby collect operator information;
 - setting an operation standard for a scanner based on the operator information;
 - scanning codes from additional articles, the codes being scanned by the operator; and
 - determining whether the operator's scanning time and scanning interval for the additional articles conforms to the operator's scanning time and scanning interval for the test articles

a storing unit that stores individual operator setting information for a specific operator including the reading time and the operation interval measured in a portable recording medium, the individual operator setting information depending on personal features of the specific operator to be engaged in scanning codes;

a reading unit ~~which~~that reads pertinent individual operator setting information from ~~[[a]]the portable recording medium-recording individual operator setting information depending on personal features of operators engaged in operation for reading the code;~~

a setting unit ~~which~~that sets an operation standard for reading scanned codes on the basis of the read individual operator setting information; and

a processing unit ~~which~~that processes the code reading on the basis of the set operation standard.

3. (Currently Amended) An apparatus for reading a code given to a commodity, said apparatus comprising:

a measuring unit that measures a reading time and an operation interval during the scanning of codes given to a plurality of articles prepared for measuring the reading time and the operation interval;

a storing unit ~~which~~that stores individual operator setting information for a specific operator including the reading time and the operation interval measured in a portable recording medium, the individual operator setting information depending on personal features of operators~~the specific operator to be engaged in operation for readingscanning the codecodes;~~

a reading unit that reads pertinent individual operator setting information from the individual operator setting information stored;

a setting unit ~~which~~that sets an operation standard for reading scanned codes on the basis of the stored individual operator setting information; and

a processing unit ~~which~~that processes the code reading on the basis of the set operation standard.

4. (Currently Amended) An apparatus for reading a code given to a commodity, said apparatus comprising: